

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR RECOGNIZING FAULTS IN MACHINES****Abstract**

A system and method for diagnosing one or more faults or one or more potential faults in a machine. The system and method has a communications module for communicating machine data between the machine and the system. It also has a fault recognition module for analyzing the machine data, which can determine one or more faults or potential faults in the machine. An expert system module having a fault tree is guided through only a truncated portion of the fault tree based upon output from the fault recognition module.